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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY China/Korea

DATE DISTR. 3 Aug/ 1951

SUBJECT Duplication of Unit Designations,
Chinese Communist Army

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DATE OF
INFO. [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. The Chinese Communists are committed to sending 1,000,000 more troops to Korea [REDACTED] Other than the youths they have called up to replenish the losses in Korea, most will come from the regular field armies. Their method of choosing from the regular armies is to take one or two divisions from one army and one or two from another army until they have three divisions to form an army. However, these divisions still keep their old unit designations. For example, the 107 and 108 Divisions were taken from the 36 Army and the 109 Division from the 37 Army to form one army, but they still retained their original designations.¹ The vacancies in the old 36 Army will be filled locally and these two new divisions will also be designated the 107 and 108 Divisions. These duplicate unit titles are distinguished by letters of the Russian alphabet placed before the title [REDACTED].
2. If the new 36 Army in Korea should suffer a great loss in manpower, they might come back to the China mainland to re-equip; in the meantime the other 36 Army would replace them in Korea, so as to confuse allied intelligence.
3. The Chinese Communists have been employing this method of rotation in their armed forces in Korea since March.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. It would appear from the rest of the report that the army made up of these divisions would be designated the 36 Army. According to information available to this office, as of 6 June the 36 Army was at Suchow; the 37 Army was possibly in Korea, and part was possibly in Manchuria.

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